

# NEWSLETTER

of the

Sheriff's Office of Baltimore City

Encompassing the City of Baltimore

July 2007

**Mission Statement:** To serve the citizens of Baltimore City and advance the Criminal Justice System and Public Safety of Baltimore City by providing professional and uncompromising service through teamwork and a commitment to excellence. To fulfill the duties of the Office of the Sheriff in a dignified manner so as to inspire the confidence of the public and to consistently strive to advance the quality of life in the City of Baltimore.

## Sheriff's Office Directory

General Information: 410 396-1155

Courthouse Security Division: 410-396-5068

Rental Eviction Sheriff Services: 410-396-7412

Child Support and Criminal Warrant Apprehension: 410-396-7591

## July at a glance.

By Inspector Steven K. Williams

In the [United States](#), Independence Day (commonly known as "the Fourth of July" or "July Fourth") is a [federal holiday](#) celebrating the adoption of the [Declaration of Independence](#) on [July 4, 1776](#), declaring independence from [Great Britain](#).

While the 4th of July is celebrated as the day of independence, the United States became independent officially only after the [war of independence](#), on [September 3, 1783](#) when British King [George III](#) and US leaders signed the [Treaty of Paris](#).

Independence Day is commonly associated with [fireworks](#), [parades](#), [barbecues](#), [beer](#), [picnics](#), [baseball](#) games, and various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States.

[Fireworks](#) have been associated with the Fourth of July since 1777.

Independence Day, the only holiday that celebrates the [United States](#), is a [national holiday](#) marked by [patriotic](#) displays. Similar to other summer-themed

events, Fourth of July celebrations often take place outdoors. Independence Day is a federal holiday, so all non-essential federal institutions (like the [postal service](#) and [federal courts](#) are closed on that day. Many [politicians](#) make it a point on this day to appear at public events to praise the nation's heritage, society and people. Speeches and editorials may invoke [Revolutionary War themes](#) such as [the founding fathers](#) (including [John Adams](#), [Thomas Jefferson](#), [Patrick Henry](#), and [George Washington](#)), [the Constitution](#), the [Liberty Bell](#), and [democratic](#) principles such as [liberty](#), [freedom](#), [equality under the law](#), [inalienable rights](#), and [representative government](#).



PLEASE PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THIS NEW PAYDAY CHANGE NOTICE: FINAL REMINDER:

Dear City Employee:

As you may have heard, the City is implementing a new Payroll/Human Resources system. To streamline the payroll process, when the new system becomes operational, all City employees who are not already paid on Fridays will be changed to every other Friday.

Your paycheck date will be affected by this change. The system will be implemented in early July and the change for your payroll frequency will be effective on the paycheck for the pay period of June 28, 2007 through July 11, 2007. The pay day originally scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2007 will be delayed, one-time only, until Friday, July 20, 2007. Thereafter, you will be paid every other Friday, the next pay day being Friday, August 3.

Please note that the pay period is not changing. Your pay period still runs from Thursday through the second Wednesday. Only the pay date is changing.

Please make the necessary adjustments for your individual situation. For example, you may have automatic transfers from your bank account for your mortgage or other type of loan based on a Wednesday check date. Contact your financial institution (you may want to take a copy of this notice with you) to see if rescheduling of such payments is necessary.

Should you have any questions, please contact your agency payroll person or Human Resources representative.

You will be receiving more information about the enhancements provided by the new system, including a sample of the new pay stub, in the near future.

Thank you for your cooperation.

A special thank you to Deputy Juanita Gaines and her laudatory efforts with a "Dangerous Defendant" in the Courthouse.

On June 4, 2007 Deputy Gaines reported to Lt. Cogen that she would need additional security in her courtroom after the lunch recess. She reported that the Defendant had fired his lawyer and requested a jury trial where he would be defending himself. Deputy Gaines also reported that the Defendant threatened to throw a chair at Judge Alpert and had threatened to kill her. Furthermore, she reported that this Defendant had acted out in court previously. Lt. Cogen followed up and spoke to Deputy Dickens who had witnessed similar behavior at an earlier date.

Based on these events, Sergeant Gruzs arranged for extra security (SRT/Taser). Lt. Cogen then drafted a letter to Judge Alpert requesting that the Defendant be held in full restraints and additional security be allowed in the courtroom.

Judge Alpert received the letter and read it on the record to the Assistant State's Attorney and the Defendant (His restraints were not removed). The Defendant began to act out by using profanity and pretending that he was not aware of what was happening. The Defendant then began to insult the Judge and asked to go back to jail and for the trial to be held without him.

Judge Alpert noted several times that the Defendant could stay in the courtroom if he could control himself. The Defendant continued to act out and was removed from the courtroom. Judge Alpert then put on the record that the Defendant would be tried in absentia. Judge Alpert also placed on the record that the Defendant would be held in full restraints if he were to return back to the courtroom.

Deputy Gaines attention to detail and keen knowledge to go above and beyond was very instrumental in Judge Alpert's acceptance of this request to hold a dangerous defendant in full restraints during a jury trial. This is certainly a tool

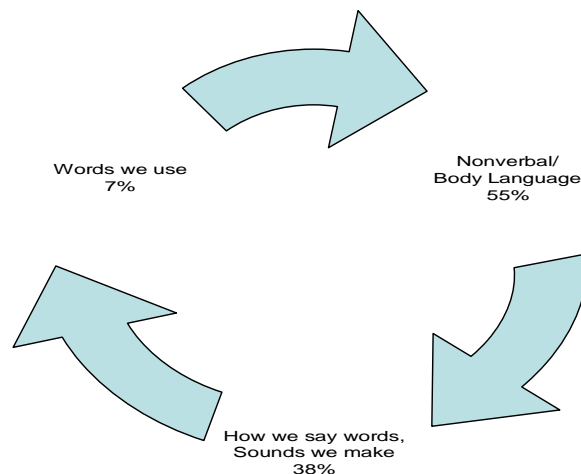
that the Sheriff's Office can use in the future. This will hopefully allow us to avoid events that we here in the news in other Courthouses throughout the country.

### Message from the Sheriff:

People communicate beyond words. Beyond words, people express feelings. Often they disclose these feelings through word emphasis and body language, even though they may verbally communicate conflicting ideas.

Becoming a more effective, empathic listener requires developing both desire and skill. We need to live key principles of communication more fully. Effective listening requires knowledge of how meaning is conveyed from speaker to listener.

## HOW WE COMMUNICATE



"The one who listens does the most work, not the one who speaks."



John W. Anderson, Sheriff of Baltimore City